



Quaker Peace
& Social Witness

QPSW Relief Grants 2023

Introduction

Our grant making focusses on faith-led concerns that enable change for the relief of suffering. Britain Yearly Meeting has funds available to support the work of local and area meetings in furthering concerns for the relief of suffering in the wider world, for furthering the aspirations of individual Friends and for responding to hardship suffered by individual Friends.

This document describes the purpose of, and outlines the application procedure for, QPSW Relief Grants. In order to make an application it will be necessary to download the PDF application form and the guidance notes for its completion. In order to use the electronic application form you will need the free **Adobe Reader**.

The purpose of QPSW Relief Grants

All projects requesting support should be for **peacebuilding** or for relief of **people who are suffering as a result of natural disasters, climate change, war, conflict or social and economic deprivation**, but not for immediate crisis relief.

Geographical limitations

There are no geographical limitations to the grants.

Up to 25% of the funds available in any year may be awarded to projects for relief of people within the UK.

The 'Quaker Link'

All grant requests must come from a 'Britain Yearly Meeting Quaker Link'. This 'Quaker Link' is a sponsoring individual or representative of a group. The grants enable enhancement, or development, of support and action on the concerns of individuals or groups of Friends and this is a key consideration in assessing applications.

The project, or support for an existing project, should arise from Friends' concern, tested and supported through a meeting. This will usually be a local meeting, commonly with additional area meeting support, but may be from another suitable Quaker grouping.

At least one minute of support from a meeting is **required**. It is important that these minutes or their accompanying reports record clear understanding and support (which may be in active financial or other active support of the project by the meeting, or in spiritual and other support of concerned individuals). 'Rubber stamp' minutes of endorsement, particularly for financial support to existing projects, are not always helpful.

The 'Quaker Link' is responsible for ensuring that appropriate reports on grant spending are supplied.

Reporting and accountability

Clear and appropriate reporting is required for each project to which funds are granted. The Quaker Link, together with any 'project manager' where appropriate, will usually be required to produce at least a summary 'interim' report after about six months and a 'final' or 'annual' report for which management accounts of grant spending will be a minimum requirement. Copies of bank statements may also be required for financial reporting.

For larger projects, or projects managed by larger organisations, full audited accounts may be requested.

Where funds from elsewhere have been promised that are necessary to the project implementation, evidence may be required that they have been received.

A key element in assessing grants is sustainability

This needs to be evident in a number of ways.

- The project itself should be enabling people to move to a sustainable or more sustainable situation.
- The project should be moving towards financial sustainability or completion by the end of the term of any grant awarded.
- Consideration of, and efforts towards environmental sustainability, are a requirement of any application.

Scale of grants

Annual grants are made from a limited fund and in 2023 will be for up to £4,000 per project per year, for up to two years. Funding for year two will be subject to a satisfactory report on the first year's activities.

This level of funding might be only part of the funding necessary for the project and applicants will need to give consideration to the prospects of other sources of funding in assessing the viability and sustainability of a project.

Repeat applications

If a beneficiary has received a grant for two or three consecutive years, there must be an interval of at least one year before they can be considered for another grant.

Any new project proposal following a one-off or two/three year grant needs to be substantially different from previous applications.

Critical dates

Application forms are available from May 2023.

Forms for 2023 will be sent to prospective applicants following a discussion of the projects aims and budget with the Grants Programme Officer.

The closing date for fully completed application forms is 31 July 2023.

Decisions will be notified at the end of September 2023 at the earliest.

Application and decision procedures

Decisions are made by the **Grants Group** overseen by QPSW Central Committee with professional advice as necessary. Applicants should bear in mind that meeting the criteria given in the guidelines is a necessary condition for consideration by Grants Group, not a guarantee of funding.

- All applications must be made on a fully completed application form with further supporting material appended.
- Applications should be made electronically using the PDF form provided unless there is good reason for difficulty.
- Applications are considered once a year only.

Decisions In our discernment we use the following criteria for prioritising the distribution of funds:

- The likelihood of success.
- The likelihood of the activity having a long-term impact on the problem to be addressed.
- The added value to the activities of the grant holders.

Publicity

Successful beneficiaries may be featured in *Quake!*.

Contact details

Application form requests, queries, and forms completed following the available guidelines should be submitted to:

grants@quaker.org.uk
Grants Programme Officer
Friends House
173 Euston Road
London NW1 2BJ
020 7663 1053